

Remarks

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Bryant (U.S. Patent No. 5,040,264). Bryant teaches a vacuum cleaner bag of porous material that includes a substrate impregnated with anti-static and deodorizing agents. The substrate may also be impregnated with disinfecting agents. The substrate is attached to the bag. The applicants have cancelled claim 1 and added claim 2 in its place. The substrate of Bryant can not be cut into a plurality of strips. The card of claim 2 is cut into a plurality of strips. Each strip can then be bent at its center so that each strip does not stick to the side of the receptacle thereby increasing airflow across the surface area of the strips when the strips are inserted into the receptacle through the opening of the receptacle.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Bosses (U.S. Patent No. 5,342,420). Bosses teaches a dust and dirt collecting apparatus for a vacuum cleaner that includes a porous bag defining a dust and dirt collecting enclosure. A releasing strip is disposed on an outer surface of the bag for releasing an active agent, such as a deodorant, into air passing through the vacuum cleaner. The applicants have cancelled claim 1 and added claim 2 in its place. The

releasing strip of Bryant is attached externally to the bag. The card of claim 2 is cut into a plurality of strips. Each strip is then bent at its center so that when each strip is inserted into a receptacle it does not stick to the side of the receptacle thereby increasing airflow across the surface area of the strips when the strips are inserted into the receptacle through the opening of the receptacle.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Colon (U.S. Patent No. 5,460,787). Colon teaches an apparatus for providing a scent to a compartment that includes a reusable holder having a connecting mechanism and a scented card that may be inserted into the holder. The connecting mechanism can be a clip which is connectable to a louver of an air duct outlet register of a forced air system or to a fan guard of a utility fan. The applicants have cancelled claim 1 and added claim 2 in its place. The card of claim 2 is cut into a plurality of strips. Each strip can then be bent at its center so that each strip does not stick to the side of the receptacle thereby increasing airflow across the surface area of the strips when the strips are inserted into the receptacle through the opening of the receptacle.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Benko (U.S. Patent Application No.

20030091466). Benko teaches an apparatus for releasing a fragrance that includes a first scented layer that releases a first portion of fragrance and a second scented layer adjacent to the first layer that releases a second portion of fragrance. The applicants have cancelled claim 1 and added claim 2 in its place. The card of claim 2 is cut into a plurality of strips. Each strip can then be bent at its center so that each strip does not stick to the side of the receptacle thereby increasing airflow across the surface area of the strips when the strips are inserted into the receptacle through the opening of the receptacle.

A package of claim 2 contains a scented and custom treated card and is for use with a vacuum cleaner having an intake nozzle, a receptacle and a blower that creates a flow from the nozzle to the receptacle so as to carry dirt from the nozzle into the receptacle. The pre-scented and custom scented card includes a card and oil containing a fragrance, an anti-bacterial agent and/or an odor eliminator. The card is formed from a material that is capable of absorbing a fragrance. The oil containing the fragrance, the anti-bacterial eliminator and/or the odor eliminator are disposed on the card. The card is adapted to be cut into a plurality of strips that are then inserted into the receptacle through the opening of the bag or receptacle.

The applicants now believes that their application is ready for allowance and requests a speedy action to that end.

Dated: December 15, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Edward Johansen', written over the printed name.

W. Edward Johansen

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